

# Satellite Domain Industry Day

03/03/2016

Number	Question	Answer
1	It seems there is an overlap between the satellite domain PM requirements and the Enterprise Domain requirements? How are the roles and responsibilities different?	The scope of requirements identified for each of the Domains has been designed to allow the Domain program areas maximum flexibility in defining requirements at the Task Order level and the capability to span across the broad areas of the SOW to include those requirements that are not severable as separate Task Order requirements. The Enterprise Domain PM support is designed to mitigate OCI issues within the Line offices.
2	NOAA promised the SBA that 75% will go to small businesses. How small is small? Is this referring to the 541712 NAICS code?	Each Domain has a NAICS code that defines the business size standard.
3	It appears contradicting: on one hand a niche company can submit a proposal as prime. On the other hand its proposal will be evaluated using same criteria as others? Allowing non-exclusive teaming undermines the nature of competition and makes the process on company side extremely complicated. Could gov't give further clarification?	Proposals will be evaluated using the same evaluation criteria. Non-exclusive teaming may allow primes to build teams on the fly based on the task order requirements. The Government does not require exclusivity or non-exclusivity. The method of teaming is a business decision.
4	On page 131 in the Draft RFP, complexity is defined as the degree to which an identified corporate experience has tasks interrelated in multiple ways. Please clarify what the government means by "tasks interrelated" in the scope of Pro-Tech	Each SOW has multiple complex tasks which may be interrelated at the task order level.
5	A goal of Pro-Tech is to build an industry base of small/med/large businesses. For the Satellite Domain, with 75% of IDIQ awards reserved for companies of up to 1000 employees, and Task Order set asides of at least two of these companies if they are deemed capable of performing, what is it about the nature of your task orders or your evaluation of Small Business (1000 employee) company's capabilities that provides a reasonable chance for companies over 1000 employees to compete for Task Order work?	The objective for a strategic sourcing program is to consolidate requirements at the task order level as appropriate to gain efficiencies in the future. Market research has demonstrated a significant portion of the NESDIS professional and technical services work has been awarded to large business either because the breadth of the work exceeded the capacity of small business or because of the possession of unique capabilities. This trend is expected to continue.
6	Is it better to focus on being a niche and prime contractor and only meeting those requirements? Or, is it better to build a team that meets all of the requirements?	This is a contractor business decision.
7	Is there a certain % of small companies to be awarded a Task Order?	No.

8	When competing for a Task Order, how would NOAA differentiate from small business to a large business? Would a small company have preference over a large one?	See answer to question 2 above for determining business size. Task orders will be set aside for small businesses in accordance with FAR 19.
9	NOAA hires personnel to work as in-house individual contractors: How would Pro-Tech apply fairness among these in-house contractors and small companies providing the same services?	All NOAA contractors are to perform to the contract terms and conditions. There are no standards outside the contract terms to measure performance.
10	Has a decision been made to release the remaining four domains in pairs or ind	The current plan is to release the Satellites Domain RFP first and then within six month release the Fisheries and Enterprise Domains RFP, followed by the release of the RFP for Oceans and Weather Domains within 6 months.
11	The satellite system services domain has a requirement for data collection and surveys: 1) Is there any focus on customer satisfaction or employee evaluation? 2) will data collection involve any interviews or focus groups? 3) Who is your contact person in this regard?	No. These are scientific data collections and surveys. Contact POCs are provided at the task order level.
12	NESDIS/NCEI - What are the current and evolving needs for robust cyber security and information assurance for the 200tt TB/Day? Please Describe.	Requirements for cybersecurity and information security will be defined at the task order level and most likely fall under the NOAA Link program.
13	For AGO: Will the government eliminate the requirement for a subcontract manager as key personnel? The teams may be small enough that the contracts manager can manage the subcontracts. It makes the subcontracts manager optional and can save on the overhead costs.	Section L.9.3.1 describes the required minimum key personnel. A Subcontracts Manager is not required for small businesses.
14	What is cooperative institute employment CNCEI?	Cooperative Institutes are part of NOAA's cooperative agreement mechanism to partner with regional universities. Employees are university employees. Funding is provided as part of tasks outlined in 5-year cooperative agreements between NOAA and the university/CI. CI work tends to focus more on R&D vs. operational deliverables.
15	Will NCEI database and IT requirements be met via NOAA Link or ProTech?	Selection of the appropriate contract vehicle for NCEI service requirements will depend on the precise nature of the requirements. IT commodity purchases will continue to be acquired via NOAA Link.

16	NESDIS has a few key stakeholder organizations (for example OPSS program office, GOES, OSPO, STAR, etc.) How will the proposal be evaluated? Are the internal organizations part of evaluation team? What matters to one organization may not matter to others? Or, is ProTech addressing these mainly through the requirement?	Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with Section M.4 and the evaluators will be represented by the various NESDIS organizations.
17	Can you please clarify what roles will fall under enterprise vs. satellite in the offices that were presented today? NCEI noted some would fall under Enterprise – but JPSS had similar admin / outreach functions that were not noted as being under enterprise. Please Clarify if there will be consistency?	The scope of requirements identified for each of the Domains has been designed to allow the Domain program areas maximum flexibility in defining requirements at the Task Order level and the capability to span across the broad areas of the SOW to include those requirements that are not severable as separate Task Order requirements.
18	In evaluating IDIQ proposals will there be preference for Primes who include one or more socioeconomically disadvantaged companies as subcontractors?	No. Other than small businesses are required to submit a Subcontracting Plan with their offer.
19	How will you satisfy socioeconomic goals? By awarding IDIQ contracts to 8a woman owned, hubzone, etc., companies? Do you plan to award 75% of IDIQ contracts across all domains, or 75% in each domain?	In each domain and socioeconomic goals will be achieved by using FAR 19 procedures at the task order level.
20	For companies who desire to be on multiple teams: will the small business awards be made as a Small Business award? Or a specific socio-economic class such as hub-zone?	Small business awards may be made by socioeconomic category.
21	Will you look at breaking up a contract (like EMOSS) into many task orders, or will the contract be presented as one task order?	The decision on whether requirements can be further subdivided will depend on the nature of the requirement.
22	Task Order Competitions: What will be the requirements for the subsequent task order proposals?	Individual Task Order requirements have not been defined at this time. They will be specified in the TO RFP.
23	Is the Q3 2016 solicitation release for the satellite domain RFP the most specific time frame available?	Yes.
24	Will NOAA provide a short-term advance notice before the final satellite domain RFP is to be released? It would be helpful to have, for example, two weeks' notice of the RFP release so we can get our resources ready.	The ProTech team uses the website to provide schedule updates as much as possible, however the Government cannot commit to any advance notice of RFP release.
25	Will cross-teaming be allowed?	Yes.

26	Can you Prime and Sub on a team?	One is either a prime or a subcontractor on a team, not both. Yes if the intent of the question is to prime on one team and subcontract on another.
27	If the scope of the PWS does not fit the designated NAICS code of the Pro-Tech domain contract, will and how can it be a mandatory usage contract vehicle? Currently many NOAA programs referenced in the draft PWS do not fit the designated NAICS.	NAICS codes are assigned based on the preponderance of requirements within each domain. While ProTech is a mandatory usage vehicle for NOAA, there will be an established exception process which can be utilized if a potential requirement does not fit within the NAICS Code established for a domain.
28	Is NOAA expecting rates to be discounted at the task order level?	In certain cases, such as, when the ceiling hourly rate is based on performance at a contractor site location and actual performance will be at a government site or when an individual's qualifications are below the top of the relevant level, then yes. In other instances, this will be a contractor business decision.
29	In section M.4.1.3 you indicate that you will evaluate the contractors ability to perform the breadth, depth and complexity of the requirements associated with each proposal domain. Can you explain what you consider important breadth, depth and complexity indicators?	The definitions of breadth, depth, and complexity are located in Section L.9.2.3.
30	Will past performance from subcontractors count if you are the prime?	Past Performance from primes and subcontractor team members will be evaluated based on relevency and quality. Offerors can, if they choose, submit up to 5 examples of subcontractor past performance as part of their past performance proposal for the IDIQ awards. Past performance may also be defined for task order evaluations.
31	Will non-NOAA past performance be favorable? Will it count as high as NOAA past performance?	Past Performance from primes and subcontractor team members will be evaluated based on relevency and quality regardless of customer.
32	Current NESDIS vehicles that have come out seem to be geared towards lower pricing models. How will this differ on ProTech?	Price will be evaluated as indicated in Section M.4.4. As that section makes clear, offerors' proposed ceiling hourly rates will be evaluated for reasonableness. They will not be used to develop an evaluated price that will be used to rank offerors from lower to higher price.
33	Is NASA past performance relevant/relatable for ProTech?	See answer to question 31 above.

34	Many of the speakers talked about databases, software development, and other IT functions. Will these be a part of ProTech, or will it go to NOAA Link?	The preponderance of the work among other criteria will determine under which program an IT service requirement falls, ProTech or NOAALink. IT commodity purchases will continue to be acquired via NOAALink.
35	When will the slides be made available and where will they be posted?	The slides are available on FBO.
36	Will NOAA link continue to exist as is? Or, will it wrapped into ProTech?	NOAALink will continue to exists as is.
37	For AGO: How will “set aside” decisions be made in determining size standards restrictions on Task Orders?	Set asides will be determined in accordance with FAR 19.
38	Is there a target % for Small Business set aside awards?	Percentages are only applied for reserves at the IDIQ contract award level, not for set-asides at the task order level.
39	It’s stated that 75% of the awards will be to small businesses. Is this referring to IDIQ awards and/or task order awards?	See answer to question 38 above.
40	For large businesses it was asked “is it the usual” goals. Please clarify if “usual” refers to the statutory 23% with socio-economic sub goals, or do you expect more to meet 75%?	Small business goals for other than small business are specified in the RFP (Section H).
41	Can a large company be prime on a domain and also a sub to a small company in the same domain?	Yes.
42	Can a small company be a sub to both a small and a large company in the same domain?	Yes.
43	Can you please post the industry day presentations on the ProTech website?	The industry day presentations are posted on FBO.
44	For the small businesses, especially the niche offerors, the timing of the RFP release is critical for marshalling the resources needed to write the proposal. Can you tell us the earliest the RFP might be released?	NOAA anticipates an RFP release date in 3QFY16.
45	From an overall perspective, with release of ProTech solicitations, where does that leave NOAA link? Especially NOAA link 8a since that on-ramping has been delayed and NOAA link contract expires in 2020?	NOAALink will not be impacted by ProTech.
46	I wanted to ask if a decision has been made to release the remaining four domains in pairs or individually	See answer to question 10 above.

47	The current plan is to release the Satellites Domain RFP first and then within six month release the Fisheries and Enterprise Domains RFP, followed by the release of the RFP for Oceans and Weather Domains within 6 months.” Does this mean that the Fisheries and Enterprise domains will be released together in one RFP, or will they released in separate RFPs?	See answer to question 10 above.
48	Section 4-RFP Overview states that exclusive teaming agreements are not required. Just for clarifications, are exclusive teaming agreements prohibited?	They are not prohibited.











